

**Illinois Early Learning Council
Executive Committee Meeting
October 7, 2019, 1:00 – 4:00 PM**

Chicago, ISBE Video-Teleconference Room (100 W. Randolph St., 14th Floor)
Springfield, ISBE Video-Teleconference Room (100 N. 1st St)
Call in: (888) 494-4032; Access Code: 611-304-5703

In attendance

In-person: Karen Berman, Christi Chadwick, Phyllis Glink, Gaylord Gieseke, Cornelia Grumman, Carisa Hurley, Cristina Pacione-Zayas, Sylvia Puente, Diana Rauner, Jesse Ruiz, Sara Slaughter, Teri Talan, Dr. Cynthia Tate, Josie Yanguas

Phone: George Davis, Kristy Doan, Shauna Ejeh

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions – Phyllis Glink and Jesse Ruiz (10 minutes)

Phyllis Glink welcomed everyone to the meeting. She asked everyone to introduce themselves in the following order: Early Learning Council (ELC) Executive Committee members on the phone; members in person; guests on the phone; guests in person. Jesse Ruiz introduced Theresa Hawley, the new First Assistant Deputy Governor of Education. Carisa Hurley then introduced Heather Calomese, ISBE's new Executive Director of Program Services. Jesse Ruiz made a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

2. Home Visiting Task Force – Gaylord Gieseke and Diana Rauner (5 minutes)

- Vote to approve 2019 Vision and Priorities

Jesse Ruiz made a motion to approve the Home Visiting 2019 Vision and Priorities. The document was approved as written. Phyllis Glink expressed gratitude that IL is moving towards one centralized vision.

3. Advancing the Vision for Early Childhood in Illinois (90 minutes)

Phyllis Glink noted that she ceded her time to discuss Membership and Governance today but wanted everyone to know that the subcommittee has been active. We are moving closer to proposed guiding policies and a membership renewal. Stay tuned.

- **Overview** - Phyllis Glink and Jesse Ruiz (5 minutes)

Phyllis Glink noted that it is an important time in Illinois when multiple pieces of work need to be woven together into a comprehensive vision. Today we will take a deeper dive into these pieces of work so the ELC Executive Committee can determine what we need to do to move everything forward.

- **PDG B-5 Needs Assessment & Strategic Plan – Eboni Howard/AIR (60 minutes)**

Cynthia Tate introduced Eboni Howard from American Institutes for Research (AIR), Illinois' partner in the Needs Assessment, Strategic Plan, and Governance work under the PDG B-5. Illinois put in an application for a no-cost extension for the Initial PDG B-5 because of late start (due to the contract process). GOECD is currently writing for the PDG B-5 Renewal, which asks that we continue to advance our Statewide Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan over the next three years.

Eboni Howard thanked everyone for their time and noted that the goal for today is to make sure everyone is on the same page in regards to AIR's work and the final Governance, Needs Assessment, and Strategic Plan deliverables for the PDG B-5. Eboni noted that after AIR compiles all the goals, strategies, and action steps from all the existing strategic plans in IL, the Governor's Office, the ELC, and the Governor's ECCE Funding Commission will work to prioritize IL's next steps for the Strategic Plan, which should be informed by the outcomes of the Needs Assessment.

It was recommended that a small committee of the ELC be formed to support GOECD and AIR in the decision-making needed to complete this work, namely, to organize IL's actions and activities around major buckets of work. Volunteers must be prepared to meet frequently the next five weeks (actual timing dependent upon IL's receipt of a no-cost extension). Phyllis Glink noted that this work should take priority over other work being undertaken in committees. It was decided that the ELC Co-chairs will coordinate to request volunteers and schedule meetings for this group. All meetings will be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Meanwhile, AIR will continue with their plan for stakeholder engagement to gather input and feedback from families and professionals across the state.

- **Racial Equity Work – Dr. Cynthia Tate (25 minutes)**

Cynthia Tate acknowledged all of the BUILD Team members in the room, noting that the goal of today is to expose everyone to the plans developed during the most recent Racial Equity Retreat, discuss implementation by committees, and determine the accountability of the Executive Committee. Cynthia reminded everyone of the racial equity definition developed in the first retreat and the four priorities

developed in the second retreat. She described how retreat attendees split into groups to write work plans and reviewed the plans developed for Access, Quality, Integration & Alignment, Home Visiting, and Governance. Cynthia noted that this work will be prioritized by each committee and will be described in the PDG B-5 Renewal as part of IL's strategic planning efforts.

4. **Break** (10 minutes)

5. **Advancing the Vision for Early Childhood in Illinois (continued)** (55 minutes)

○ **PN3 Initiative** – Karen Berman (20 minutes)

Karen Berman provided an overview of PN3 Initiative. This is a great opportunity to lift up state funding for community systems and family engagement. IL is not an official Pritzker Children's Initiative state. The McCormick, Stone, and Harris Foundations are providing funding so IL can benefit from the TA and resources all the other states have access to. The fully participating states had one year to complete this work; IL is working on half that timeline. There is a core team of 12 people and a broad coalition team with members across the state. Meetings are scheduled in October, November, and December. The goal is to complete this work in early January and to repeatedly connect with AIR to integrate this B-3-focused work into the Statewide Strategic Plan (being developed under the PDG B-5).

○ **Finance Commission** – Jesse Ruiz (15 minutes)

Jesse Ruiz noted that the Governor's Office is getting ready to present the results of Boston Consulting Group's work to the Governor; these findings lay the groundwork for the to-be-established ECCE Funding Commission. They expect a group of 15-20 people, including legislators. Member selection will be based on individuals skillsets that reflect the diversity of the ECCE field. Jesse noted that this effort can only be done in conjunction with the ELC, as it is the most efficient and effective way to gather broad feedback and input. An upcoming Executive Order will name individuals on the Commission. Ultimately, the Governor will decide what becomes legislative/budget priorities. Commission meetings will be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

○ **PDG B-5 Renewal Grant** – Dr. Cynthia Tate (10 minutes)

Cynthia Tate gave a brief overview of the PDG B-5 Renewal opportunity. The FOA addresses both states who have and have not completed their Needs Assessments and Strategic Plans to date; IL is not the

only state in this position. The Renewal application is due on November 5th. All states were given a shorter timeline than last year. The targeted dollar amount IL will be applying for, per the Governor, is \$15 million per year (the maximum). ISBE and GOMB's ruling that this can be treated as a grant instead of procurement allows for inclusive planning with both public and private partners. GOECD has held early childhood systems meetings organized around the topics of June 10th Strategic Visioning and Planning meeting. The application will focus on major buckets of work: data systems, workforce development, cross-systems PD, program capacity building, family engagement/parent support, quality improvement, etc. Please come to these meetings and contact our staff so we can include your input in the proposal.

- **Role of Early Learning Council** – Phyllis Glink and Jesse Ruiz (10 minutes)

It was requested that the ELC Executive Committee be given an opportunity to give input on the PDG B-5 Renewal proposal. Jesse Ruiz stated that a webinar would be set up to review the proposal before submission. Cynthia Tate noted that there are three bonus point areas of the grant: Coordinated Intake, B-3rd grade continuity, Infant/Toddler focus. IL will be applying for all three.

6. Announcements & Public Comments (10 minutes)

Cristina Pacione-Zayas noted that she has Risk and Reach post cards. Anyone in the database should have received notice that the website has been updated. Erikson is hosting a workshop for folks before budget season.

7. Adjourn

Phyllis Glink thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:

Monday, December 2, 2019
1:00-4:00pm